CONSTITUTION

of the

Village of Teller

PREAMBLE

We, a group of Eskimos residing principally in the Village of Teller, in the State of Alaska, having a common bond of association and interests, in order to promote our security and social welfare, and advance and protect our common interests as the descendants of the aboriginal Eskimos within the Seward Peninsula, do establish this Constitution by authority of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) as amended by the Act of May 1, 1936, (49 Stat. 1250).

ARTICLE 1-NAME

The official name of this Organization shall be the Eskimo Village of Teller, Alaska, hereinafter referred to as the Village.

ARTICLE II-MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The base membership roll of the Village of Teller shall consist of all persons whose names appear on a list of individuals of Eskimo blood associated with the Eskimos of the Village of Teller and Mary's Igloo prepared pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Any eligible person whose name does not appear on this list, may make application for enrollment to the governing body of the Village of Teller. Application for enrollment of minors shall be made by the parent or legal guardian. A denial of enrollment may at any time be appealed by an interested person to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, whose decision shall be final.

SECTION 2. All descendants of base enrollees shall be eligible for membership and shall be enrolled upon application and must be at least one-quarter (1/4) Eskimo Blood.

SECTION 3. No person shall be enrolled as a member of this Village who has received payments on land or money by virtue of having been enrolled as a member of some other tribe.

SECTION 4. The governing body shall maintain the membership roll current at all times. It shall have authority to enact ordinances governing the adoption and removal of members, provided, however, that any person whose name is removed from the membership roll shall have the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, whose decision shall be final.

ARTICLE III-GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of the Village of Teller shall be the Teller General Council and shall consist of all adult members of the Village eighteen (18) years of age or older.

ARTICLE IV-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There shall be an Executive Committee composed of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and one member appointed by the Governing Body. If the Governing Body chooses, that one member hold the office of the Secretary Treasurer, the Governing Body will appoint one other member to hold a seat on the Executive Committee so that there will always be Five (5) members on the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee members will be appointed by all Nine (9)members of the Governing Body each year after the general election, and only from the Governing Body. The actions taken by the Executive Committee must be ratified by the Governing Body at their next regular General Council meeting.

ARTICLE V-ELECTIONS

The first election of executive committee members under this constitution shall be held within sixty (60) days following its effective date.

All Village elections shall be conducted in accordance with an election ordinance which shall be proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Council. The election ordinance shall include provisions for a fair election, nomination of candidates, balloting and a method for settling election disputes.

Any member of the Village eighteen (18) years of age or more shall qualify for office, and, if elected, may hold office, provided no person convicted of a felony may qualify for office until pardoned or until at least five (5) years have past following completion of sentence.

Any member of the Village eighteen (18) years of age or more shall be entitled to vote in any tribal election at meeting.

ARTICLE VI-POWERS

The general council or by delegated authority the executive committee shall exercise such powers as may be authorized by the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378), and the Act of May 1, 1936, (49 Stat. 1250), and such powers and responsibilities hereinafter provided, subject to any limitation imposed by Federal law or the Constitution of the United States and such further powers as may in the future be delegated by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative.

(a) To consult, negotiate, contract or conclude agreements with Federal, State and Local governments on activities that effect the Village.

(b) To employ legal counsel, the choice of counsel and fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative.

(c) No sale, disposition, lease, encumberance of Village lands, interests in lands, or other Village assets shall be made without the consent of the general council.

(d) To receive advice from and make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior with regard to all appropriation estimates or Federal projects for the benefits of the members of the Village prior to the Budget and to Congress.

(e) To acquire property and to accept gifts.

(f) To assess fees for payment of expenses or to finance any project which is for the benefit of the members of the Village as a whole.

(g) To enact ordinances governing the adoption of members and loss of membership.

(h) To establish rules of procedure for the conduct of it's affairs.

(i) To cultivate and preserve Native arts, crafts, culture and ceremonials.

Any right and powers heretofore vested in the Village but not expressly referred to in this article shall not be lost by reason of their ommission but may be exercised with the adoption of appropriate amendments to the constitution.

ARTICLE VII-BILL OF RIGHTS

The protection guaranteed to persons by title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (82 Stat. 73), against actions of a tribe in the exercise of its powers of self-government shall apply to the Village, its officers and all persons within its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE VIII-DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The chairman shall preside at all meetings of the General Council and of the executive committee and shall perform all duties of the chairman and shall exercise any authority delegated to him or her by the general council.

The vice-chairman shall in the absence of the chairman perform all duties and assume all responsibilities vested in the chairman. The vice-chairman shall, upon request of the chairman, assist in carrying out the duties of the chairman.

The Secretary shall keep an accurate account of all proceedings and official records of the general council and of the executive committee. The Secretary shall conduct all correspondence affecting the Village. It shall be the Secretary's responsibility to keep minutes of all regular and special meetings and to submit copies of such minutes to the superintendent of the Nome Agency.

The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds which may occure to the benefit of the Village and he shall receive, receipt for and deposit them in a bank covered by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. He shall pay out funds in accordance with a properly executed resolution of the general council or executive committee. He shall keep accounts of all receipts and disbursements and shall make a financial report at least once a year. Whenever the general council deems it necessary, the treasurer shall be bonded. Bond premiums shall be paid from tribal funds. The books of the treasurer shall be subject to annual audit or inspection at the direction of the general council or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

ARTICLE IX-MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the general council shall be held quarterly or on dates set by the executive committee.

Special meetings of the general council may be called at the discretion of the chairman or shall be called by him upon request of at least three(3) members of the executive committee or upon the request of at least five (5) members of the general council.

All meetings of the general council and the executive committee shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, except where said rules conflict with a specific provision of this constitution.

Five (5) members of the general council shall constitute a quorum. No business shall be transacted by the general council unless a quorum is present. Three (3) members of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum to transact any business.

ARTICLE X-AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by a majority vote of the general council and shall become effective if approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by the qualified voters of the tribe in the same manner as was this Constitution. The tribe must have 30 percent of eligible voters participating in election. Also election must be called by the Secretary of the Interior.

ARTICLE XI-ADOPTION

This Constitution shall be in affect when it is ratified by a majority of the qualified voters voting at an election called be that purpose by the Secretary of the Interior or his designated representatives, provided, at least thirty (30) percent of those entitled to vote shall vote.

I certify that the IRA Council passed and approved this Constitution on this day _____ at the regular Teller Traditional Council Meeting.

Maggie Foster
President

Johnny Kugzruk
Vice-President

Andy Topkok
Secretary-Treasurer

TELLER TRADITIONAL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 548
TELLER, ALASKA 99778

PETITION

WE, THE ENROLLED MEMBERS OF THE TELLER TRADITIONAL COUNCIL, PETITIONS THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, MR. CECIL ANDRUS, ACTS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE ON THE CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS OF TELLER TRADITIONAL COUNCIL AND SET AN ELECTION DATE SO THAT THE IRA COUNCIL CAN BE RECOGNIZED.

1. Morris I. Kuggzuk
2. Andrew A. Topkok
3. Henry Actuck
4. Ruby Oklasaik
5. Isaac Oklasaik
6. [illegible]
7. Oscar Lee
8. [illegible]
9. [illegible]
10. [illegible]
11. [illegible]
12. [illegible]
13. [illegible]
14. [illegible]
15. Harvey Kuggzuk
16. Stella Oklasaik
17. Maggie Foster
18. [illegible]
19. [illegible]
20. Paul Topkok
21. [illegible]
22. [illegible]
23. Lincoln C. Oklasaik
24. Edgar E. Lee
25. Margaret Lee
26. [illegible]
27. [illegible]
28. Virginia Komok
29. Johnny Kuggzuk
30. [illegible]
31. Edward J. Kokaruk Sr.
32. [illegible]
33. Theresa M. Kuggzuk
34. Tom Ashenuk
35. [illegible]
36. [illegible]
37. [illegible]
38. [illegible]
39. [illegible]
40. [illegible]
41. [illegible]
42. Olga Topkok
43. Emma Topkok
44. Duncan B. Pullock

45. Betty N. Oshira
46. Naomi Attatayuk
47. Cyathia Asagerouk
48. John Attatayuk
49. Samuel Abbott
50. Mary Keelick
51. [illegible]
52. [illegible]
53. Marie Emiak
54. Thomas J. Aflowaluk
55. Edward Keelick
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